



**Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning**  
**2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower**  
**Atlanta, GA 30334**  
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

**Date:** 11/7/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:20 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

**CCLC-51677**

**Rocking Horse Childcare Center**

40 A Harold Ragan Drive Blakely, GA 39823 Early County  
(229) 723-6498 rockinghorseblakely@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Angela Williams-Jackson

Phone: (404) 710-3984

Fax: (678) 717-5765

angela.williams-jackson@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                                   |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11/07/2024                  | Complaint Closure                 | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11/07/2024                  | Complaint Investigation Follow Up | Support       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 07/17/2024                  | Complaint Closure                 | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**Ratios/License Capacity**

| Building                       | Room   | Age Group                         | Staff                          | Children | NC/C | Max 35 SF.                    | 35 SF. Comp. | Max 25 SF. | 25 SF. Comp. | Notes                  |
|--------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Main                           | E:1L   |                                   | 0                              | 0        | C    | 7                             | C            | NA         | NA           |                        |
| Main                           | Room A | Infants and One Year Olds         | 1                              | 4        | C    | 15                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play             |
| Main                           | Room B | One Year Olds                     | 1                              | 7        | C    | 19                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play              |
| Main                           | Room C | Two Year Olds                     | 1                              | 7        | C    | 21                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play              |
| Main                           | Room D | Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 2                              | 8        | C    | 26                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside, Transitioning |
|                                |        |                                   | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 88 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                        |
| Total # Children this Date: 26 |        |                                   | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 88 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                        |

| Building | Playground                | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground A (Infant)     | 13                   | C                     |
| Main     | Playground B (Toddler)    | 12                   | C                     |
| Main     | Playground C (3 - 12 yrs) | 38                   | C                     |

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a complaint follow up visit. A Plan of Improvement was left and is due November 22, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 11/22/2024

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).

Please refer to the website, <http://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>, for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at <http://gbi.georgia.gov> to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

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#### Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA [www.decalkoala.com](http://www.decalkoala.com) with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

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Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)

#### **Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:**

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

**Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



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**(Findings Report)**

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

|  |  | Facility |
|--|--|----------|
|--|--|----------|

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were accessible to children:

**Classroom B**

- Nine bottles of diaper rash cream were on top of the changing table.
- Six packs of baby wipes labeled "keep out of reach of children" on top of the changing table.

**Classroom C**

- One container of eczema cream, two bottles of baby powder, seven bottles of diaper rash cream, one container of Bentonite clay, and one container of Vaseline were on top of the changing table.

**Classroom D**

- A plunger in the children's bathroom against the wall on the left side of the entrance door.
- Three packs of baby wipes labeled "keep out of reach of children" and one grocery bag on top of a low steel shelf inside the children's bathroom.

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**Correction Deadline: 11/7/2024**

**Recited on 11/7/2024**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the following were not kept clean and not in good repair:

**Classroom A**

- The interlocking foam mats were stained throughout.

**Classroom B**

- The countertop around the sink was with stains.
- The floor around the changing table and sink area were with debris.
- The carpet was stained throughout.

**Classroom C**

- Two white chairs in the library area were stained.
- The floor around the changing table and sink area were with debris.
- All of the area carpets in the classroom were stained.

**Classroom D**

- The gray cushion to the cozy couch in the calming area were stained.
- The floor around the sink area was with debris.
- All of the area carpets in the classroom were stained.
- The countertop near the sink and the countertop near the back wall were with stains.
- Under two electrical outlets near the counter of the back wall to the left of the room had roach droppings.

**Classroom E**

- Two ceiling tiles were stained. One near the ceiling vent and one over the window.
- The light cover near the ceiling vent had a stain.

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**Correction Deadline: 11/7/2024**

**Recited on 11/7/2024**

| 591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) | Not Met |
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| -----                       | -----   |

**Correction Deadline: 7/31/2024**

**Corrected on 11/7/2024**

**The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were accessible to children on the playground:

**Playground A**

- A black garden hose stretched across the ground near the back door of classroom B.

**Playground C**

- The white PVC pipe around the play equipment was separated on three of the four corners that posed a entrapment and pinching hazard.

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Correction Deadline: 11/7/2024

Recited on 11/7/2024

## Health and Hygiene

### 591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Not Met

#### Finding

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on observation that two out of four children in classroom A had pacifier clips attached to their shirts that posed a strangulation hazard.

Correction Deadline: 11/7/2024

### 591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)

Not Met

#### Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that in classrooms A and B the changing table surface was with debris.

Correction Deadline: 11/7/2024

### 591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)

Not Met

#### Finding

591-1-1-.17(5) requires that drinking fountains are safe, kept clean, have regulated pressure, not be mounted on sinks used for diaper changing, and have an angle jet with an orifice guard above the rim. Single-service drinking cups shall be provided when appropriate drinking fountains are not available, and cups shall be discarded after each use unless the cups are sanitized in a dishwasher between each use. It was determined based on observation that in classrooms B, C, and D there were used non-disposable reusable cups stored on top of the counters near the sinks.

Correction Deadline: 11/7/2024

**Safety**

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2024

Corrected on 11/7/2024

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2024

Corrected on 11/7/2024

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

**Staff Records**

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR

Not Met

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #5 did not have evidence of completion of CPR and first aid within 90 days of their hire date as required.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2024

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #5 did not have evidence of completion of health and safety orientation training within 90 days of their hire date as required.

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**Correction Deadline: 12/7/2024**

**Recited on 11/7/2024**

**Defer**

This rule will be evaluated during the next regulatory visit.

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**Correction Deadline: 3/18/2024**

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on observation that a lead teacher, staff member #2, #5, and #6, did not have evidence of educational credentials as required.

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**Correction Deadline: 5/7/2025**

**Recited on 11/7/2024**